

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CONAKR 00374 091809Z

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USIAC

USIA FOR IBS-PA, IAA (PETTY);

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: U.S. PRESENTATIONS TO GOG

BEGIN ITEM. CONAKRY, MARCH 8-- GUINEAN GOVERNMENT SOURCES WEDNESDAY REPORTED THAT AN AMERICAN CONTRIBU-
TION OF 1,200 SOCCER BALLS WILL BE PRESENTED TO LEADING LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCILS (PRL'S) DURING THE 38TH SESSION OF THE GUINEAN NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE REVOLUTION NOW UNDERWAY HERE UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF PRESIDENT AHMED SEKOU TOURE. THE SPORTING EQUIPMENT WAS GIVEN TO THE GUINEAN GOVERNMENT LAST WEEK BY AMBASSADOR WILLIAM C. HARROP AS THE FIRST PORTION OF A SELF-HELP AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND GUINEA WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY PROVIDE 2,444 SOCCER BALLS, BASKETBALLS AND VOLLEYBALLS FOR LOCAL GUINEAN ATHLETES. THIS WILL PROVIDE AT LEAST ONE SOCCER BALL FOR EACH VILLAGE COUNCIL IN GUINEA.

THE DONATION OF THE SPORTS EQUIPMENT WAS ONE OF THREE PRESENTATIONS BY U.S. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CONAKR 00374 091809Z

TO GUINEAN OFFICIALS DURING THE COURSE OF THE WEEK.

IN SEPARATE CEREMONIES OVER THE WEEKEND, AMBASSADOR HARROP OFFICIATED AT THE PRESENTATION OF 14 DODGE D200 PICKUP TRUCKS WITH TWO YEAR SUPPLY OF SPARE PARTS, TWO 13-FOOT BOSTON WHALER BOATS AND MEDICAL EQUIPMENT WHICH REPRESENTS THE FIRST PART OF A TOTAL U.S. DONATION OF 329,000 TO THE GUINEAN MINISTRY OF HEALTH;

AND DEPUTY CHIEF OF MISSION EDWARD A. MAINLAND PRESENTED TEN PALM NUT CRACKING MACHINES AS THE SECOND U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO THE GUINEAN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE'S RURAL PROMOTION BRIGADES.

ALL THREE PRESENTATIONS COINCIDED WITH THE SIGNING OF AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS OUTLINING THE TERMS OF PROGRAMS, INCLUDING THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF BOTH PARTIES, AND THEIR CONTEXT IN HEALTH, AGRICULTURAL AND SPORTS PROGRAMS IN WHICH THE U.S. ASSISTS THE GUINEAN GOVERNMENT.

IN MAKING THE PRESENTATION OF THE SOCCER BALLS TO MAMADOU TOUNKARA, NEWLY APPOINTED MINISTER OF YOUTH AND SPORTS, AMBASSADOR HARROP NOTED THAT IN THE FIELDS OF HIS (THE MINISTER'S) COMPETENCE, SPORTS, YOUTH AND ART, THERE ARE "MANY POSSIBILITIES FOR FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION." THE AMBASSADOR EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE TWO COUNTRIES CAN REALIZE THESE TOGETHER.

THE HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PROJECT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, UNDER THE TERMS OF WHICH THE TRUCKS, BOATS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT WERE DONATED, IS RELATED TO THE MAJOR SAHEL DROUGHT RELIEF EFFORT OF THE U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. IT PROVIDES MATERIALS TO THE GUINEAN MINISTRY OF HEALTH IN SUPPORT OF ITS VACCINATION PROGRAM AGAINST MEASLES, SMALLPOX, YELLOW FEVER AND TUBERCULOSIS. IN ADDITION TO THE \$329,000 CONTRIBUTED BY USAID THERE IS ALSO A GUINEAN GOVERNMENT COUNTERPART FUND CONTRIBUTION OF 7,700,000 SYLIS.

SEVEN GUINEAN REGIONS IN THE NORTHEASTERN PART OF THE COUNTRY HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED AS AFFECTED BY THE DROUGHT.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 CONAKR 00374 091809Z

IN ADDITION TO THE DONATIONS ALREADY PRESENTED, UNDER THE TERMS OF THE PROJECT USAID WILL ALSO CONTRIBUTE IN THE FUTURE 14 BUTANE OPERATED VACCINE FREEZERS TO BE MOUNTED ON THE TRUCKS ALREADY X00)83\$, SEVEN KEROSENE AND ELECTRICALLY OPERATED FREEZERS, 250,000 DOSES OF MEASLES VACCINE, 150,000 DOSES OF BCG ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS DRUG, AS WELL AS ANTI-YELLOW FEVER VACCINE.

IN ACCEPTING THE U.S. CONTRIBUTION FROM AMBASSADOR HARROP, THE MINISTER OF HEALTH, DR. KEKOURA CAMARA, ASSERTED THAT GUINEA ONLY ACCEPTED FOREIGN AID WHICH HAS THE EFFECT OF ELIMINATING THE NEED FOR FURTHER AID IN THE SAME FIELD IN THE FUTURE. HE PLEDGED THAT GUINEA WOULD DEMONSTRATE ITS GRATITUDE BY MAKING THE BEST POSSIBLE USE OF THE EQUIPMENT AND BY MAINTAINING IT IN EFFICIENT CONDITION.

THE PALM NUT CRUSHERS WERE SUPPLIED TO VILLAGE COOPERATIVES AT THE REQUEST OF PRESIDENT SEKOU TOURE. THEY ARE MEANT TO ELIMINATE THE INEFFICIENT HAND LABOR PREVIOUSLY REQUIRED SO THAT

GUINEA CAN INCREASE ITS PALM OIL PRODUCTION. A PART OF THE
PROCEEDS REALIZED FROM THEHALE OF THE OIL WILL BE REINVESTED
TO FURTHER INCREASE PRODUCTION.
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